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Harwich Port Health Authority



Annual Report FOR THE YEAR 1959



HARWICH PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY.

Members and Officials of the Authority as at 31st December 1959

BOROUGH OF HARWICH

Councillor E. GANT (Chairman)
Alderman J.E.CANN
Alderman C.A.GREEN
Councillor O.D.ROLLAND.
Councillor Mrs.E.M.SMITH
Councillor C.C.THURLOW

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Councillor Mrs.M.MACLACHLAN
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Councillor F.W.AYLMORE
Councillor P.J.COLE
Councillor E.LOWE

FELIXSTOWE U.D.C.

Councillor W.E.HASTE
Councillor W.Y.WARD

DEBEN R.D.C.

The Rev.W.H.GROOM

Clerk and Solicitor: H.H.V.CARTER, B.A.

Office: 42, Church Street, Harwich.

Telephone: HARWICH 666/7

Office of the PORT MEDICAL OFFICER: Health Department,
259, Main Road, Dovercourt.

Telephone: HARWICH 506

Office of the PORT HEALTH INSPECTOR: Parkeston Quay.

Telephone: HARWICH 656.



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HARWICH.

February, 1960

To the CHAIRMAN & MEMBERS of the PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY

Dear Mr. Chairman and Members,

We have the honour to submit the Annual Report for 1959. This is drawn up in accordance with Ministry of Health instructions. The last survey report was 1955 but in order to assist any Members of the Board who have joined since that year this report is given in full.

The work of the Port Health Services have been maintained satisfactorily throughout the year.

The duties of such services include:-

- (a) The prevention of the importation of infectious disease.
- (b) The supervision of the hygiene of crew and passenger accommodation in ships.
- (c) The supervision of the hygiene of quays, docks, warehouses etc.
- (d) The inspection of imported foodstuffs.

These duties are carried out under powers granted by the Public Health Act, 1936, and other Acts and Regulations, which include the Public Health (Ships) Regulations 1952 and 1954, the International Sanitary Regulations, the Imported Food Regulations, the Clean Air Act, 1956 etc.

On the 2nd February, 1959 the cargo ship M.V. Colchester came into service replacing the S.S. Dewsbury. The M.V. Colchester which is used on the Antwerp Service is in many respects similar to the Isle of Ely used on the Rotterdam Service.

Thus most of the vessels trading regularly at Parkeston Quay are of modern construction.

The cordial relations between the Customs Department, the Immigration Department, the British Railways, the United Shipping Company and the Zeeland Shipping Company have been maintained. A satisfactory liaison has also been established with the Ministry of War Transport Official controlling the B.A.O.R. Troopship Service. Without such relationship it would be impossible for the work of the Port to be carried out in an efficient manner.

The work of medical inspection of aliens has been satisfactorily operated during the year.

The number of aliens examined shows a small decrease on the previous year. In the Analysis of Aliens so referred it is of interest to note that a large proportion of those in Category (iii) - Aliens intending to take up employment without M.L. Permits - come on an "Au Pair" basis. It is hoped to give further particulars under this heading next year.

Once again it affords much pleasure to express appreciation of the work carried out by the various members of the Staff.

We have the honour to be, your obedient servants,

J.ROLAND HETHERINGTON

Port Medical Officer,
Medical Inspector of Aliens.

NORMAN PEACOCK

Chief Port Health and Food Inspector.

SECTION 1. STAFF

TABLE A

| Name of Officer | Nature of Appointment | Date of Appointment | Qualifications | Any other Appointment held. |
|------------------------------------|---|---------------------|---|--|
| John Roland Hetherington | Port Medical Officer | 1.4.1943 | L.R.C.P.E., L.R.C.S.E., L.F.R.P. S.G., D.P.H. | M.O.H. Harwich A.C.M.O. Essex C.C. A.V.D.M.O. North East Met. Hosp. Board. |
| Kieran Phelan | Assistant Port Medical Officer | *1.8.36 | M.B.BCh. BA.O. B.A.O. N.U.I. | In General Practice. |
| Norman Peacock | Chief Port Health & Food Inspector | 4.8.35 | San. Inspect. Cert. Meat & Food Inspect. Cert. Royal Sanitary Institute | NIL. |
| Rowland Willingham | Assistant Port Health and Food Inspector. | 1.6.53 | San. Inspect. Cert. Meat & Food Inspect. Cert. Royal Sanitary Institute. | NIL. |
| * Temporary Appointment 17.5.34 | | | 6 Chief Inspector from 1.12.56 | |
| Office of the Port Medical Officer | | | 259, Main Road, Dovercourt. Telephone - HARWICH 506. | |
| Office of the Health Inspector | | | Parkeston Quay. Telephone - HARWICH 656 | |

SECTION II. AMOUNT OF SHIPPING ENTERING THE DISTRICT DURING THE YEAR

TABLE B.

| Ships from | No. | Tonnage | Number Inspected | | No. of Ships reported as having, or having had during voyage infec. disease on board. |
|---------------|--------------|------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------|---|
| | | | By the Med. Officer of Health. | By the Sanitary Inspector | |
| Foreign Ports | 2,589 | 3,704,429 | 74 | 495 | 17 |
| Coastwise | 529 | 101,325 | | 251 | - |
| | <u>3,118</u> | <u>3,805,754</u> | <u>74</u> | <u>746</u> | <u>17</u> |

SECTION III. CHARACTER OF SHIPPING AND TRADE DURING THE YEAR.

TABLE C

| | | | | | |
|----------|-----|-----|-----|---------|----------------|
| Inwards | ... | ... | ... | British | 197,070 |
| | | | | Aliens | 130,900 |
| | | | | | <u>327,970</u> |
| Outwards | ... | ... | ... | British | 201,209 |
| | | | | Aliens | 144,237 |
| | | | | | <u>345,446</u> |

CARGO TRAFFIC

Principal IMPORTS:-

Fruit Vegetables, Meat, Bacon, Offals, Tinned Foodstuffs, Fish Shellfish, Dairy Produce, Biscuits, Yeast, Confectionery, Horsemeat, Textiles, Apparel, Wines, Spirits, Beer, Paper, Machinery, Motor Cars, Fuel Oils, Chemicals, Timber, Grain, Electrical Goods, Bulbs, Plants, Films, Animals, Carpets, Furniture.

Principal EXPORTS:-

Animals, Textiles, Automobiles, Fish, Horsemeat, Barley, Implements, Tools, Furs, Machinery, Rubber Tyres, Tractors, Carpets, Musical Instruments, Furniture, Boots and Shoes, Clothing, Amunition, NAAFI Stores.

PRINCIPAL PORTS from which ships arrive:-

Hook of Holland, Antwerp, Rotterdam, Zeebrugge, Esbjerg, Bergen, Krefield, Haarlingen, Copenhagen, Bremen, Ymunden, Hamburg, Gothenburg, Dunkirk, Dordrecht. Venice, Stettin, Various Timber Ports in Sweden and Finland.

The Area of the Port consists of:-

PARKESTON QUAY This is used mainly by the passenger and cargo boats services from Hook of Holland, Antwerp, Rotterdam and Esbjerg. The Ministry of Transport maintain a fleet of three vessels for troop carrying from here to the Hook of Holland.

FELIXSTOWE DOCK A small tidal dock on the east side of the harbour. This is used by small vessels from foreign and coastwise ports carrying grain, timber, strawboards, bottled beer, liquid chemicals, fuel oils and other general cargo. The Dock Company have made considerable efforts to increase the trade at the Dock, and schemes for enlarging and improving the Dock are in progress. There have been 426 foreign arrivals at the Dock during the year compared with 281 during 1958. At the end of the year there were regular services from Dordrecht, Haarlingen, Rotterdam, and Copenhagen. The export of live cattle to the Continent was discontinued. The cattle sheds have been cleaned up and are now used for storage purposes.

MISTLEY QUAY A small quay situated about 10 miles up the River Stour. This is used mainly by small vessels carrying grain and timber.

HARWICH There is a train ferry terminal here used by the Ferries on the Harwich-Zeebrugge service. Trinity House have their own pier at Harwich, which is used solely by Trinity vessels. A small quay at the gasworks is used by coal carrying vessels. The local shrimping and fishing boats work from Harwich, also the passenger ferry service between Harwich and Felixstowe and Shotley.

There were eight vessels laid up in the River Stour at the end of the year, as compared with eighteen laid up at the end of 1958.

SECTION IV. INLAND BARGE TRAFFIC

There is no Inland Barge Traffic at the Port.

SECTION V. - WATER SUPPLY.

(1) Source of Supply.

The water to Harwich and Parkeston Quay (and for the shipping there) is supplied by the Tendring Hundred Waterworks Company. The water is obtained from deep bores sited at Lawford and Dedham.

The water for shipping at Felixstowe Dock is from the private supply of the Dock Company. The source is a spring at Peewit Hill. There is a chlorination plant at the storage reservoir.

The water for shipping at Mistley Quay is piped from Messrs. Free Rodwell's private supply for their Maltings. This is obtained from a deep bore.

(2) Reports of tests for contamination.

Nine samples from quay hydrants were submitted for bacteriological examination during the year. These were all reported as excellent.

Four samples were submitted from tanks of vessels. Of these, two were reported as satisfactory and two as unsuitable for drinking. Instructions were issued for cleaning and cement washing of tanks to the vessels of which the samples were reported as unsatisfactory.

The Shipping Companies at the Port are carrying out the Ministry of Transport recommendations regarding cleansing of fresh water tanks on vessels - i.e. tanks are cleaned and cement washed every twelve months, and opened up six months after this has been carried out, and cleansed, and if necessary re-cemented.

(3) Precautions taken against contamination of hydrants and hosepipes.

The supply hydrants are all in water-tight chambers, which are provided with drainage and proper covers. Care is taken to see that the chambers and covers are maintained in proper condition. Rubber or plastic lined hoses are used for filling tanks. These hoses are cleansed and stored in proper tanks after use.

(4) Water Boats

There are no water boats in use at the Port.

SECTION VI. PUBLIC HEALTH (SHIPS) REGULATIONS, 1952.

(1) List of Infected Areas (Regulation 6)

A list is maintained of Ports and other areas which are infected or believed to be infected with any of the quarantinable diseases (e.g. Plague, Cholera, Yellow Fever, Smallpox, Typhus or Relapsing Fever). The List is kept up to date from information contained in the Weekly Epidemiological Record issued by the World Health Organisation from Geneva. The contents of this list, amended as may be required are supplied to the Chief Preventative Officer, Harwich Customs and to the Chief Port Health Inspector.

(2) Radio Messages. (Regulation 12-14)

(a) As Harwich is not a Radio Transmitting Port there is no arrangement for sending messages by radio granting permission for ships to enter the district.

(b) In the event of an outbreak of Infectious Disease or suspected Infectious Disease or other circumstances requiring the attention of the Medical Officer messages sent by radio through North Foreland are transmitted to the Port Medical Officer. The action varies in accordance with the nature of the message.

(3) Messages are also received by signals in accordance with Regulation 15.

(4) Mooring Stations (Regulation 22)

There is one mooring station in the Port District. This is bounded on the North by a line drawn from Fagborough Cliff to the River Steamers' Pier, Harwich, and on the South by a line drawn from Martello Tower to the Look-out, Harwich.

To this Station infected ships or suspected ships are directed in accordance with Regulations 22-30 of the Public Health (Ships) Regulations. The general procedure is fully known to all the Pilots using the Port.

(5) (a) Patients suffering from infectious diseases are accommodated at Myland Hospital, Colchester.

(b) Every attempt is made to follow up and deal with contacts; notice being sent if necessary to the Medical Officer of Health for the area to which contacts are going.

(c) Disinfection and cleansing of the affected portion of the ship is carried out by the Port Health Inspectors. Disinfection and cleansing of clothing and other articles was carried out at the Disinfecting Station of the Harwich Borough Council on six occasions.

SECTION VII. - SMALLPOX

Any case of smallpox would be sent to the Smallpox Hospital at Ipswich, which is designated a "first line" Hospital. Should accommodation there not be available, Myland Hospital, Colchester (designated a "second line" Hospital) would be prepared to accept cases. Dr. John Kershaw is available as a consultant if required. Laboratory investigations for smallpox virus is now carried out at the Central Public Health Laboratory, Colindale.

SECTION VIII. - VENEREAL DISEASE

The Port Medical Officer is in charge of a Clinic for the treatment of V.D. which is held at the Harwich and District Hospital at the following times:-

Tuesday ... 9.00 - 9.30 a.m.

Thursday ... 5.30 - 6.30 p.m.

and at other times by appointment.

Notices advertising the place and times of Clinic Sessions are exhibited in suitable places and the Public Health Inspectors seek to ensure that the facilities are made known to seamen using the Port.

SECTION IX. - Cases of Notifiable and other Infectious Diseases on Ships.

TABLE D.

| Category | Disease | No. of cases during year | | No. of Ships concerned |
|---|-----------------|--------------------------|------|------------------------|
| | | Passengers | Crew | |
| Cases landed from ships from foreign ports. | Chicken Pox | 1 | ? | 3 |
| | Pulmonary T.B. | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| | Influenza | | 4 | 4 |
| | Measles | 1 | - | 1 |
| | German Measles | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| | Mumps | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| | Sonne Dysentery | - | 1 | 1 |
| | Septicemia | - | 1 | 1 |
| | Impetigo | - | 1 | 1 |
| Cases which have occurred on ships from foreign ports but have been disposed of before arrival. | - | - | - | - |
| Cases landed from other Ships | - | - | - | - |

SECTION X. - OBSERVATIONS ON THE OCCURRENCE OF MALARIA ON SHIPS

No cases of Malaria were reported on any vessels during the year.

SECTION XI. - MEASURES TAKEN AGAINST SHIPS INFECTED WITH OR SUSPECTED FOR PLAGUE

Practically all the foreign arrivals are from Continental Ports which are not likely to be affected with Plague, consequently there is very little risk of Plague infected or suspected ships arriving at the Port. Should the necessity arise, however, the measures laid down in Part I of the Fourth Schedule of the Public Health (Ships) Regulations, 1952, would be put into operation as far as applicable.

SECTION XII. - MEASURES TAKEN AGAINST RODENTS IN SHIPS FROM FOREIGN PORTS

(1) Procedure for inspection of ships for rats.

Vessels are inspected as cargoes are discharged, and examinations made of holds, galleys, stores, etc. and cargoes for evidence of rat infestation. Members of crews and the men working in the holds are instructed that any signs of rats must be reported to this Authority. The class of cargoes carried, and the short duration of the voyages do not encourage rodent infestation. No evidence of rat infestation was found on any vessel in the Port during the year.

Visits are made to the vessels laid up in the River Stour, to ensure that there is no rat infestation on the vessels.

Regular visits are made to Felixstowe Dock and Mistley Quay to inspect quays, warehouses etc. for rodent infestation

The British Railways Rodent Operators make regular visits to carry out treatment against infestations on quays, warehouses, river banks etc. under the supervision of this Authority.

(2) Arrangements for the bacteriological or pathological examination of rodents, with special reference to rodent plague, including the number of rodents sent for examination during the year.

Arrangements have been made with the Public Health Laboratory at Ipswich for examination of rodents for rodent plague.

No rats were submitted for examination during the year.

- (3) Arrangements in the District for deratting ships, the methods used, and if done by a commercial contractor, the name of the contractor.

All the vessels which applied for Deratting Certificates during the year were found to be free from rat infestation and were granted Exemption Certificates.

Small infestations can be treated by the Inspectors of this Authority by trapping or poisoning.

Small infestations on Railway-owned vessels can be treated by their own rodent operators under the supervision of this Authority.

Large infestations would be treated either by fumigation with hydrogen cyanide or poisoning with sodium fluoroacetate (1080). This would be carried out by commercial contractors, and arrangements have been made with Associated Fumigators, Victoria Dock Road, London, or Ridpests, Ltd., 18, Andrew Street, London, to carry out this work if required.

- (4) Progress in Rat -proofing of ships.

The majority of vessels using the Port are of modern construction. Foodstores are rat-proof, doors are tight fitting, and spaces around pipes etc. and holes in partitions and bulkheads are protected by expanding metal of fine mesh. Openings to ventilation ducts in holds etc. are similarly protected.

Sixty vessels applied for examination for Deratting Certificates during the year. All these vessels were found to be free from rat infestation, and were granted Exemption Certificates.

Twelve Coastwise Vessels were issued with Rodent Control Certificates.

TABLE E.

RODENTS DESTROYED DURING THE YEAR IN SHIPS FROM FOREIGN PORTS.

NIL

TABLE F.

DERATTING CERTIFICATES & DERATTING EXEMPTION CERTIFICATES ISSUED DURING THE YEAR FOR SHIPS FROM FOREIGN PORTS.

| <u>No. of Deratting Certificates issued</u> <u>After fumigation with</u> | | | | Total | No. of Deratting Exemp. Certs. issued. | Total Certificates issued. |
|---|-----------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-------|---|----------------------------------|
| H.C.N. | Other fumigants (state method) | After trapp. | After poison | | | |
| Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | 60 | 60 |

SECTION XIII. INSPECTION OF SHIPS FOR NUISANCES.

TABLE G
INSPECTIONS AND NOTICES.

| Nature & number of Inspections | Notices Served | | Result of serving Notices. |
|--|----------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|
| | Statutory | Other Notices | |
| General Inspections (746) | Nil | 7 Informal 26 Verbal | 29 Notices Complied with. |
| Follow-up and other Inspections (83) | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| Total (829) | Nil | 33 | 29 complied with |

DETAILS OF NUISANCES AND DEFECTS DEALT WITH ON VESSELS

| | | | |
|------------------------------|---|---------------------------------|----|
| Vermin infested quarters | 5 | Vermin infested galleys | 3 |
| Dirty galley | 1 | Dirty foodstore | 1 |
| Galley sink to renew | 1 | Cooking range to repair | 1 |
| Dirty cooking range | 2 | Vegetable locker to renew | 1 |
| Leaking deckhead to quarters | 1 | Leaking pipes in quarters | 1 |
| Dirty quarters | 1 | Dirty messroom | 1 |
| Crew bedding to renew | 1 | Defective heating to quarters | 1 |
| Choked W.Cs. | 3 | Deficient water supply to W.Cs. | 2 |
| W.C.accommodation required | 1 | Deficient ventilation to W.Cs. | 2 |
| Defective fresh water tank | 1 | Fresh water tanks to clean | 3. |

The defects found in vessels during the year were mostly of a minor character, and were generally rectified when brought to the attention of the Masters or Owners. The majority of ships inspected were found to be maintained in a satisfactory condition, and it was generally found that crews appreciate the improved accommodation which is now provided for them and look after their quarters.

Seven verbal warnings were issued to vessels for emitting dark or black smoke in contravention of the Dark Smoke (Permitted Periods) (Vessels) Regulations, 1958. The most frequent offenders were the tugs based at the Port. The emissions were caused through insufficient care being taken when firing, and ceased within a short while of the attention of the Master being drawn to the matter. Most of the vessels using the Port are motor vessels or oil fired, and smoke emission from vessels does not constitute a very great problem at the Port.

SECTION XIV. - PUBLIC HEALTH (SHELL FISH) REGULATIONS 1934 & 1948.

There are no shell fish layings within the jurisdiction of the Authority.

SECTION XV - MEDICAL INSPECTION OF ALIENS

(1) Medical Inspectors:-

| | <u>Warrant issued</u> |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| J.Roland Hetherington | October 1945 |
| Keiran Phelan | November 1929 |
| Julius Levy | August 1947 |
| James Corbett | September 1949 |
| John Neild Todd | November 1955 |

(2) Female Attendants:-

Mrs.M.A.Ling appointed September 1948. Mrs.A.Grove appointed 1st April, 1953. Resigned 31st October 1959. Mrs.E.Cleaver appointed 1st November 1959.

(3) Organisation of Work.

The Medical Inspectors work a rota and as far as is possible meet all vessels carrying Aliens on arrival in Harwich

Medical Examination of certain categories of Aliens is carried out in accordance with Instructions issued under the Aliens Order, 1953. The attendant is present at all medical examinations. Where necessary a medical certificate is issued to the Immigration Officer, a duplicate copy being sent to the Ministry of Health.

(3) Organisation of Work (cont)

| <u>Year</u> | <u>Aliens Landed</u> | <u>Aliens Examined</u> | | <u>No.of Certs. Issued.</u> |
|-------------|----------------------|------------------------|------|---------------------------------|
| 1950 | 98,518 | 9,244 | 9.4% | 13 |
| 1951 | 97,391 | 8,121 | 8.3% | 12 |
| 1952 | 99,487 | 6,780 | 6.8% | 9 |
| 1953 | 103,689 | 5,931 | 5.7% | 5 |
| 1954 | 110,647 | 6,747 | 6.1% | 6 |
| 1955 | 116,894 | 6,184 | 5.2% | 51 |
| 1956 | 118,946 | 6,392 | 5.3% | 69 |
| 1957 | 124,916 | 6,660 | 5.2% | 72 |
| 1958 | 124,364 | 8,177 | 6.1% | 81 |
| 1959 | 130,900 | 7,405 | 5.6% | 73 |

(4) Analysis of Aliens referred for medical examination.

| <u>(a) Categories</u> | <u>No. Examined</u> | <u>Certificates Issued.</u> |
|--|-------------------------|---------------------------------|
| (i) Ministry of Labour permits | 4,443 | 3 |
| (ii) Aliens intending to remain in this Country | 460 | 28 |
| (iii) Aliens intending to take up employment (paid or unpaid) without M.L.Permits | 2,175 | 2 |
| (iv) Students | 121 | - |
| (v) Visiting for health reasons | 28 | 21 |
| (vi) Referred for other reasons | 172 | 18 |
| (vii) Seamen travelling as passengers | 6 | 1 |
| | <u>7,405</u> | <u>73</u> |

(b) Nationalities

Passengers who were examined were nationals of the following countries:-

| | | | | | |
|----------------|------|---------------|------|--------------|-----|
| America | 20 | Germany | 379 | Norway | 12 |
| Argentina | 4 | Greece | 8 | Poland | 221 |
| Austria | 49 | Goa | 1 | Portugal | 5 |
| Belgium | 3 | Hungary | 1 | Spain | 4 |
| Brazil | 2 | Iceland | 4 | Sweden | 197 |
| Chile | 2 | Iran | 11 | Switzerland | 88 |
| China | 1 | Iraq | 4 | Turkey | 3 |
| Czechoslovakia | 1 | Israel | 1 | Yugoslavia | 2 |
| Denmark | 1599 | Italy | 33 | Undetermined | 18 |
| Egypt | 2 | Liberia | 1 | | |
| Finland | 88 | Liechtenstein | 1 | | |
| France | 5 | Netherlands | 1245 | | |

(c) Certificates issued

| Nature of Report or Certificate | Total No.of Reports and Certs.issued. | Aliens Not Permitted to land. |
|--|---|--|
| A Unsound mind or mentally defective | 4 | 4 |
| B (1) Undesirable for medical reasons | 2 | 2 |
| B (2) Inability to support Likely to require medical treatment) | 67 | 10 |
| C Conditionally landed for further medical examination | - | - |
| Totals . . . | 73 | 16 |

| | |
|--|---------|
| No.of ships arriving with Alien passengers | 1178 |
| No.of Aliens arriving | 131,243 |
| No.of Aliens landed | 130,900 |
| No. of Aliens refused leave to land | 343 |

SECTION XVI. - MISCELLANEOUS

Arrangements for the burial on shore of persons who have died on board ship from infectious disease.

Should the necessity arise the procedure would be in accordance with the relevant sections of the Public Health Act, 1936.

SECTION XVII. - FOOD INSPECTION. - Public Health(Imported Food)Regulations

All foodstuffs landed at the Port were subject to routine inspection under these Regulations. Quantities and descriptions of foodstuffs landed are shown in Appendix I. Foodstuffs seized as unfit for human consumption are shown in Appendix II.

Increased quantities of fresh meat from Holland have been landed during the year. This consists mainly of calf carcasses, fresh and frozen offals, beef tenderloins and frozen pork loins. The fresh meat is generally landed within two days of slaughter. The transport arrangements are very satisfactory- most of the meat being carried in insulated containers, kept at a low temperature by dry ice.

In co-operation with the Public Health Laboratory, Ipswich, an investigation into Salmonellae infection of Dutch calf carcasses arriving at the Port, was carried out during the year, The carcasses sampled were "fat" calves i.e. calves weighing about 160 to 200 lbs. Samples consisted of about 4 ozs. of meat taken from the thick and thin skirt (diaphragm)and the cut neck surface.

Public Health (Imported Food) Regulations (cont)

The result of this investigation was as follows:-

Salmonellae NOT isolated in 97 samples
Salmonella Dublin isolated in 2 samples
Salmonella Heidleburg isolated in 1 sample.

The following matters were taken up with the Authorities concerned regarding fresh meat traffic:-

- (1) Use of incorrect Official Certificates, as required by the Imported Food Regulations.
- (2) Proper packing of fresh Offals
- (3) Proper covering of open crates containing carcasses.

The quantity of bacon landed during the year has increased by almost 100%. The Railway Authorities have now provided a room at Parkeston Quay, fitted with benches, where bacon can be opened and inspected under more hygienic conditions.

Considerable quantities of horse-meat and offals have been landed from Yugoslavia, but this was for animal feeding, and not for human consumption. The Public Health Authorities to whom this meat was consigned were notified of this traffic.

Six consignments of meat products arrived without Official Certificates, as required by the Regulations. These were re-exported.

The quantities of fresh fruit and vegetables landed were well up to average. Foodstuffs arriving by Train Ferry for London are not inspected at this Port. The trucks are forwarded under Custom Seal to Bishopsgate, where they are inspected by Stepney Borough Inspectors. Trucks for provincial stations are brought to Parkeston Quay, where they are cleared and inspected at 6.30 a.m. next morning.

The Danish and Dutch fresh fish traffic was maintained during the year. This fish - iced and frozen- was landed in prime condition.

Regular consignments of Dutch oysters and Danish mussels - live and pickled- were landed. These were regularly sampled for bacteriological examination. It had been the practice to carry out two bacteriological tests on shellfish- the Cleanliness Test of the Fishmongers Company, and the Roll Tube Method. In August, notification was received from the Public Health Laboratory, Ipswich that in future, only the Roll Tube Method would be used. The accepted interpretation of this Test is Grade I (Clean) less than 5 faecal coli per ml. of body tissue. Grade II (of doubtful purity) 6-15 faecal coli per ml. Grade III (polluted) more than 15 faecal coli per ml.

Eleven oyster samples were all reported as satisfactory. Of 42 live mussels samples, 40 were reported as satisfactory and 2 unsatisfactory. The Danish Authorities were notified regarding the unsatisfactory samples. The 9 samples of pickled mussels submitted were all reported as satisfactory.

Cleanliness of railway trucks used for the carriage of fish and bacon has again been a difficult matter during the year. Trucks which have been used for all kinds of traffic - ashes, brick rubble, coal etc. are brought on for loading these foodstuffs, and although they are swept out before loading, and efforts are made to prevent loading of unsuitable trucks, it is often necessary, through shortage of trucks, to load trucks which are not considered suitable for foodstuffs. However, the Railway Authorities have agreed to establish a truck washing plant at Parkeston Quay where food trucks can be washed before loading. It is hoped that this will result in a great improvement, although the plant will only be effective if there is a sufficient number of trucks on hand in advance of requirements, to permit proper cleansing.

Preservatives etc. in Food Regulations .

These Regulations prohibit the addition of preservatives to foodstuffs, except for certain foodstuffs which are permitted to contain limited quantities of specified preservatives.

Nineteen samples were submitted for examination under these Regulations. Two samples of tinned smoked saithe fillets were reported as containing benzoic acid - a preservative not allowed in tinned fish. Both consignments were re-exported.

Two samples of strawberry pulp were reported as containing sulphur dioxide, but these were within the limit of 2000 p.p.m. permitted by the Regulations.

All the other samples submitted were reported as free from preservatives.

Colouring Matter in Food Regulations, 1957.

These Regulations prescribe a list of permitted food colours. They prohibit the importations of foodstuffs containing colouring matter which is not on the permitted list. They also prohibit the addition of colouring matter to certain natural foods sold in the raw and unprocessed state.

Three samples were submitted for examination under these Regulations. A sample of tinned plums was reported as containing Ponceau 4R - one of the permitted colouring matters. The other two samples were reported as free from colouring matter.

Arsenic in Food Regulations, 1959.

These Regulations, which came into operation in August 1959, lay down the statutory limits for the arsenic content in imported food and beverages.

Three samples were submitted under these Regulations - ~~lager~~ beer, yeast and mustard. The arsenic content reported in all these samples was within the limit permitted by the Regulations.

Particulars of foodstuffs submitted for analysis and reports on same are shown in Appendix III.

APPENDIX 1.

SUMMARY OF FOODSTUFFS IMPORTED DURING THE YEAR.

| | | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------|-------------------|---------------|
| Bacon | 1,098,510 sides | Bacon (Middles) | 1,532 cases |
| Bacon (sliced) | 4,036 cases | Beef sides | 54 sides |
| Beef (Boneless) | 21,589 cases | Beef Sirloins | 17 cases |
| Beef Patties | 50 boxes | Calf Hindquarters | 9,403 hinds |
| Calf Carcasses | 36,673 carc. | Calf Legs | 123 legs |
| Calf Head | 49 cases | Calf Vells Dried | 5 cases |
| Lamb Carcasses | 234 carc. | Lamb Hindquarters | 1,127 hinds |
| Pig Carcasses | 170 carc. | Pig sides | 314 sides |
| Pork Loins | 22,275 cases | Pork Fat Backs | 130 cases |
| Pork Legs | 938 cases | Pork Shoulders | 21 cases |
| Pork Chops Frozen | 12 cases | Offals-salted | 7 casks |
| Offals Fresh | 42,077 cases | Tinned Meats | 33,529 cases |
| Tinned Hams | 39,899 cases | Sausage | 7,081 cases |
| Sausage Tinned | 2,382 cases | Butter | 44,032 casks |
| Biscuits | 428,302 tins | Bread | 12,439 ctns. |
| Bread Crumbs | 260 ctns | Baking Powder | 15 ctns. |
| Caviare | 446 cases | Cheese | 306,513 cases |
| Cheese Powder | 56 cases | Confectionery | 6,369 cases |
| Chocolate | 4,484 cases | Cakes | 11,354 ctns |
| Cereals | 472 ctns | Coffee | 870 cases |
| Chicken-tinned | 3,821 cases | Cocoa Fat | 103 cases |
| Cream -tinned | 3,600 cases | Cocoa | 240 sacks |
| Eggs | 13,517 cases | Essences | 168 ctns |
| Fish-fresh | 408,167 cases | Fish Shellfish | 32,389 sacks |
| Fish-tinned | 19,962 cases | Fish Preserved | 380 casks |
| Fruit - fresh | 1,145,942 pks. | Fruit -tinned | 353 cases |
| Fruit Juice | 432 cases | Fruit pulp | 2,640 casks |
| Flavourings | 63 cases | Flour | 97 ctns |
| Jellies | 15 cases | Gelatine | 135 cases |
| Mustard | 1,396 cases | Lard | 25,669 cases |
| Milk-condensed | 105 cases | Meat Extract | 155 cases |
| Milk-condensed (bulk) | 15 tons | Milk-condensed | 20 drums |
| Milk Powder | 57 sacks. | Milk-evaporated | 100 cases |
| Marzipan | 3 cases | Maize Starch | 13,998 sacks |
| Oats Rolled | 100 ctns. | Noodles | 180 cases |
| Pudding powders | 5,467 ctns. | Poultry | 472 cases |
| Sugar | 100 sacks | Pate de Foie Gras | 400 cases |
| Spices | 228 ctns | Salad Cream | 1,530 casks |
| Vegetables-fresh | 2,644,651 pkgs. | Soups | 419 cases |
| Vegetables-tinned | 2,436 cases | Seasonings | 735 cases |
| Vegetables-preserved | 452 casks | Vegetables -dried | 2,734 cases |
| Yeast | 59,004 ctns | Vinegar | 25 cases |
| Grain | 31,803 tons | | |

Foodstuffs imported by Train Ferry for Inspection at London.

| | | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|----------------------|--------------|
| Bacon Sides | 192,042 sides | Beef Quarters | 3,258 qrts. |
| Pork Loins | 4,710 cases | Pork Fat Backs | 70 cases |
| Offals-fresh | 6,995 cases | Sausage | 2,875 cases |
| Sausage-tinned | 1,825 cases | Lard | 598 cases |
| Meat - tinned | 431,493 cases | Hams-tinned | 3,378 cases |
| Butter | 27,361 casks | Chicken -tinned | 75 cases |
| Chicken Fat | 75 cases | Cakes | 707 ctns. |
| Cheese | 582 cases | Confectionery | 31,771 cases |
| Fruit-fresh | 4,334,224 pkgs. | Fruit-frozen | 1,837 ctns. |
| Fruit Pulp | 197 casks | Fruit-dried | 1,000 cases |
| Fish-fresh | 157 cases | Mustard | 224 cases |
| Poultry | 20 cases | Provisions | 286 cases |
| Soups | 2,861 cases | vegetables-frozen | 565 cases |
| Vegetables-fresh | 873,542 pkgs | Vegetables-tinned | 11,207 cases |
| Vegetables -dried | 760 cases | Vegetables-preserved | 130 casks |

APPENDIX II

SEIZURES UNDER THE PUBLIC HEALTH (IMPORTED FOOD) REGULATIONS, 1937.

| | | | <u>CWTS.</u> | <u>QRS.</u> | <u>LBS.</u> |
|---------------|------------|-----|--------------|-------------|-------------|
| Fruit: | | | | | |
| Grapes | 25 trays | }) | 5 | 3 | 24 |
| Melons | 6 melons | | | | |
| Vegetables: | | | | | |
| Lettuce | 78 crates | }) | 15 | 1 | 17 |
| Tomatoes | 58 trays | | | | |
| Cucumbers | 22 trays | | | | |
| Chinese Kool | 3 boxes | | | | |
| Fresh Offals: | | | | | |
| Sheep Plucks | 7 casks | }) | 7 | 0 | 7 |
| Calf Liver | 1 liver | | | | |
| Tinned Meats: | | | | | |
| Ox Tongues | 35 cases | }) | 20 | 1 | 12 |
| Boiled Beef | 3 cases | | | | |
| Sausage | 33 cases | | 13 | 2 | 9 |
| Tinned Fish | 37 cases | | 3 | 0 | 1 |
| Bacon | 1 gammon | | | | 12 |
| Confectionery | 6 cases | | | | 8 |
| Eggs | 280 eggs | | | | 26 |
| Lard | 14 packets | | | | 7 |

APPENDIX III
REPORTS ON FOODSTUFFS FORWARDED FOR
(A) CHEMICAL EXAMINATION

| Nature | Country of Origin | Purposes of Examination | Results | Remarks. |
|----------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|--|----------------------------------|
| Apples | Italy | Preservatives. | Nil Ortho-phenyphenol | |
| Bitter Oranges | Italy | Preservatives | Nil Thiourea.Nil Diphenyl. Nil Ortho-phenyphenol. | |
| Tinned Plums | Holland | Preservatives Col.matter | Nil Preservatives Contains Ponceau 4R. | Permitted Colour.matter |
| Lemons | Italy | Preservatives | Nil Diphenyl. Nil Ortho-phenylphenol | |
| Mayonnaise | Germany | Preservatives | Nil Preservatives | |
| Herrings in gelatine | Germany | Preservatives | Nil Preservatives | |
| Raspberry Syrup | Austria | Preservatives Col.Matter | Nil Preservatives Nil Colour.Matter. | |
| Tinned Blood Sausage Paste | Germany | Preservatives | Nil Preservatives | |
| Tinned Frankfurter Sausage | Belgium | Preservatives | Nil Preservatives | |
| Lemons | Italy | Thiourea | Nil Thiourea | |
| Strawberry Pulp | Holland | Preservatives | 1730 ppm. SO2 | Regns.allow 2,000 ppm,SO2. |
| Strawberry Pulp | Holland | Preservatives | 1350 ppm.SO2 | "- "- |
| Lager Beer | Denmark | Arsenic | Arsenic not exceed. 0.1 ppm | Regns.allow 0.2ppm Arsenic |
| Yeast | Holland | Arsenic | 0.3 ppm Arsenic | Regns allow ' 2.0 ppm.Arsenic |
| Mustard | Germany | Arsenic | 0.4 ppm Arsenic | Regns allow 5.0ppm Arsenic |

APPENDIX III
(A) CHEMICAL EXAMINATION (cont).

| Nature | Country of Origin | Purposes of Examination | Results | Remarks. |
|---|-------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|
| Black Currant Juice | Denmark | Preservatives Col.Matter | Nil preservatives Nil Col. matter. | |
| Canned Pork Goulash | Yugoslavia | Preservatives | Nil Preservatives | |
| Tinned Liver Sausage Paste | Germany | Preservatives | Nil Preservatives | |
| Tinned Smoked Saithe Fillets | Germany | Preservatives | 250 ppm Benzoic Acid | Regns do not permit Benzoic Acid in Tinned Fish |
| Tinned Smoked Saithe Fillets | Germany | Preservatives | 650 ppm Benzoic Acid | -do- -do- |
| Tinned Fried Herrings in Mushroom Sauce | Germany | Preservatives | Nil Preservatives | |
| Tinned Chopped Pork | Yugoslavia | Preservatives | Nil Preservatives | |
| Tinned Vegetable Juice | Italy | Preservatives | Nil Preservatives | |

APPENDIX III
(B) BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION

| Nature | Country of Origin | No. of Samples | Results | Remarks |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|----------------|--|--|
| Live Mussels | Denmark | 40 | 20 - 100% Clean. Nil Faecal Coli. Nil Salmonella 18 - Grade I. Nil Faecal coli Nil Salmonella 1 - 60% Clean. Nil Faecal coli. Nil Salmonella 1 - Grade III. 17 Faecal coli per ml. Nil Salmonella | Satisfactory Satisfactory Unsatisfactory Unsatisfactory |
| Live Mussels | Holland | 2 | 2 - Grade I. Nil Faecal coli. Nil Salmonella | Satisfactory |
| Live Oysters | Holland | 11 | 3 - 100% Clean. Nil Faecal coli. Nil Salmonella 8 - Grade I. Nil Faecal coli. Nil Salmonella | Satisfactory Satisfactory |
| Tinned Cooked Mussels in vinegar | Denmark | 9 | 9 - Nil Faecal coli. Nil Salmonella | Satisfactory |
| Salted cockles | Holland | 1 | 1 - Nil B coli. Nil Salmonella | Satisfactory |
| Calf Meat | Holland | 100 | 97 - Nil Salmonella 2 - Salmonella Dublin 1 - Salmonella Heidleburg | |

